

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 PARIS 04145 170356Z

13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 076150

R 151800Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6898

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS PARIS 4145

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRN , FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GOF REVIEW OF AERONAUTICAL PROGRAMS: CONCORDE

REF: A) PARIS 4046; B) PARIS 3437

1. LE MONDE ON FEB. 16 DRAWS SOME TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS OF LIKELY CONTENT OF NEXT WEEKS'S ANNOUNCEMENT BY GOF OF FUTURE OF CIVIL AVIATION PROGRAMS FOLLOWING FEB. 14 INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MEETING THIS SUBJECT (REFTEL)). NOTING THAT LABOR MINISTER, WHO WAS ORIGINALLY SLATED ATTEND, DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MEETING, LE MONDE READS THIS AS INDICATING GOF SEEMS TO HAVE RULED OUT LIKELIHOOD OF CUTBACKS IN EMPLOYMENT IN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY. FACT THAT PRIME MINISTER MESSMER HAS ASKED TRANSPORT MINISTER GUENA RATHER THAN DEFENSE MINISTER GALLEY(WHO HAS OVER-ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, CIVIL AS WELL AS MILITARY) TO MAKE DECISIONS PUBLIC FURTHER SUGGESTS, ACCORDING TO LE MONDE, THAT DECISIONS WILL RELATE TO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF AIRCRAFT RATHER THAN TO MEASURES AFFECTING LEVEL OF INDUSTRY ACTIVITY AND EMPLOYMENT.

2. AFP REPORTS THAT FORTHCOMING ISSUE OF AIR ET COSMOS CLAIMS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 04145 170356Z

BLOCH REPORT CITES FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS UNDER STUDY BY FRENCH AND BRITISH CONSTRUCTORS: (A) "A-1" VERSION OF CONCORDE

WITH INCREASED FUEL CAPACITY IN REAR OF AIRCRAFT TO PERMIT EITHER HEAVIER PAYLOAD (2.3 TONS) OR EXTENDED RANGE(BY 280 KILOMETERS), USE OF LIGHTER MATERIALS FOR CABIN DECORATION, INSULATION, ETC. TO REDUCE GROSS WEIGHT BY AT LEAST ONE TON, PLUS AERODYNAMIC IMPROVEMENTS; (B) A "B" VERSION WITH MORE POWERFUL REACTOR (OVER 10 PERCENT MORE THRUST ON TAKEOFF) AND 8 PERCENT LARGER WING WITH NEW LEADING EDGE FLAPS. COST OF THESE IMPROVEMENTS FOR VERSION "A-1" ESTIMATED AT 1.5 BILLION FRs. AND FOR VERSION "B" 2.5 BILLION FRs. BLOCH REPORT OPTS FOR SIMPLEST AND CHEAPEST IMPROVEMENTS INITIALLY IN HOPE OF ATTRACTING ADDITIONAL BUYERS.

3. AIR ET COSMOS ADDS THAT BLOCH URGES EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF OLYMPUS 622 ENGINE WHICH WOULD HELP ALLEVIATE NOISE PROBLEM FOR CONCORDE.

4. BLOCH IS REPORTED TO BE OF OPINION THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE MARKET THIRTY-THREE AIRCRAFT OF AN IMPROVED VERSION CONCORDE, AS COMPARED TO WHAT IS CLAIMED TO BE CONSTRUCTORS' ESTIMATE OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY AIRCRAFT. BLOCH IS SAID TO ARGUE IN HIS REPORT THAT SINCE FIRST NINE CONCORDES ARE ALREADY SOLD AND PROBABILITY OF MARKETING AT LEAST TEN OR SO MORE IS "HIGH", THREE MORE CONCORDES SHOULD BE LAUNCHED BEYOND SIXTEEN ALREADY IN PRODUCTION SO AS TO MAINTAIN POOL OF TEN UNSOLD AIRCRAFT. POOL WOULD ENABLE CONSTRUCTORS TO MEET DEMAND RAPIDLY AND CONSTRUCTION NEW AIRCRAFT WOULD BE LAUNCHED TO MATCH NUMBERS SOLD FROM POOL. BLOCH REPORTED TO BE OF VIEW, HOWEVER, THAT MINIMUM RATE OF ANNUAL PRODUCTION DESIRABLE WOULD BE FOUR AIRCRAFT. BLOCH ALSO SAID TO RECOMMEND THAT CONCORDE PROJECT BE PLACED IN CHARGE OF SMALL ORGANIZATION (TRIUMVIRATE, WHATEVER THAT WOULD MEAN) CAPABLE OF FUNCTIONING AS PROJECT MANAGER. IRWIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, PRESS COMMENTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), AVIATION AGREEMENTS, SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT, CONCORDE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS04145
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740229/aaaabaxw.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) PARIS 4046; B) PARIS 3437
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 FEB 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: GOF REVIEW OF AERONAUTICAL PROGRAMS: CONCORDE
TAGS: ETRN, FR, LE MONDE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005